GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:414
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
MIXING OF ETHANOL WITH PETROL
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of ethanol mixed petrol will reduce import bill on crude oil;

(b) if so, the amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved as a result thereof;

(c) whether the production of ethanol is sufficient in the country to cater to the needs of the people;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the quantum of petrol to be saved after mixing ethanol with petrol;

(f) whether any research has been conducted to find out the possible bio-fuels which could be blended with petrol and diesel; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a & b) Reduction of import bill on crude oil and savings to the foreign exchange due to sale of ethanol blended petrol would depend upon the supply demand balance of petrol, diesel LPG and kerosene.

(c & d) The projections made by Indian Sugar Manufacturers Associations, Indian Sugar Mills Associations, Ethanol Manufacturer Associations and Department of Food indicate that it is sufficient but All India Chemical ManufacturersAssociation have expressed their reservations. However, additional ethanol manufacturing units are coming up to fill up the gaps, if any.

(e) It is estimated that about 5500 lakh litres of ethanol would be required for blending with petrol @5% in the country and thus equal quantity of petrol would be saved.

(f & g) Ethanol has been identified for blending with petrol and bio-diesel has been identified for blending with diesel. Bio-diesel is being produced from non-edible oil seeds in India.